

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 748
By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor Leah S. Rhys upon her exemplary
tenure as Head of The Harpeth Hall School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those
exemplary citizens who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and
uncommon acumen; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Leah S. Rhys is one such outstanding person who has served with
probity and proficiency as Head of The Harpeth Hall School; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 1991, Ms. Rhys commenced her remarkable tenure as Head of
The Harpeth Hall School; and

WHEREAS, during her seven years as Head of the School, Ms. Rhys has brought
renewed vigor and distinction to Harpeth Hall; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rhys efforts have resulted in increased enrollment by 25.5 percent,
which reflects a growth in the student body that is two years ahead of schedule; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rhys's relentless efforts to raise the profile of The Harpeth Hall School
and her determination to diversify the student body have brought about a more varied student
body; and

WHEREAS, her unwavering commitment to the education of girls in a single-sex
environment has opened many eyes in the larger community to the mission of this girls'
preparatory school; and

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WHEREAS, Ms. Rhys' s fervent zeal for The Harpeth Hall School has helped to increase annual giving by 160 percent and has helped to raise the school's endowment to \$7 million; and

WHEREAS, this same zealous passion for excellence and equality in girls' education has helped to bring about the integration of technology into the classrooms at Harpeth Hall; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rhys's worked assiduously to conceive, initiate, and secure funding for a two-day national symposium at The Harpeth Hall School entitled "Today's Girls in Tomorrow's World", with national speakers and an audience of more than 700 people in attendance; and

WHEREAS, from this symposium, came the "Girls Leadership Summit" for female high school students throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rhys's unrelenting dedication to the school has challenged all members of the Harpeth Hall community – students, faculty, administrators and staff alike – to reach new heights of personal excellence; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rhys's commitment to the faculty and teaching excellence has resulted in increased faculty salaries and professional-development monies; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 1998, Ms. Rhys will leave Harpeth Hall, not less, but greater, better, and more beautiful than it was transmitted to her; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Ms. Leah S. Rhys upon her exemplary tenure as Head of The Harpeth Hall School and salute her stalwart dedication to the excellence of girls' education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish Ms. Rhys all the best for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

